

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 737**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Longville**

February 19, 2003

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An act to amend Sections 12814.5 and 14900.1 of the Vehicle *Code*, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 737, as amended, Longville. Vehicles: driver's licenses: fees.

(1) Existing law authorizes the Director of Motor Vehicles to establish a program under which the Department of Motor Vehicles may renew driver's licenses by mail for licensees not holding a probationary license, and whose records, for the 2 years immediately preceding the determination of eligibility for the renewal, meet certain conditions.

This bill would extend the specified 2-year period to 5 years.

*The bill would require a licensee to pass the department's visual test and may require passage of the department's written driving examination as a condition to receiving a renewed driver's license if, because of the licensee's record for the preceding 5 years, the licensee is ineligible for a renewal by mail.*

(2) Existing law imposes a fee of \$15 for renewal of a driver's license *except as specified*.

This bill would increase the specified fee to ~~\$30~~ \$45 and would exempt from that fee increase driver's licenses renewed by mail.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 12814.5 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

12814.5. (a) (1) The director may establish a program to evaluate the traffic safety and other effects of renewing driver's licenses by mail. Pursuant to that program, the department may renew by mail driver's licenses for licensees not holding a probationary license, and whose records, for the five years immediately preceding the determination of eligibility for the renewal, show no notification of a violation of subdivision (a) of Section 40509, a total violation point count not greater than one as determined in accordance with Section 12810, no suspension of the driving privilege pursuant to Section 13353.2, and no refusal to submit to or complete chemical testing pursuant to Section 13353 or 13353.1.

(2) *A licensee shall pass the department's visual test and may be required to pass the department's written driving examination as a condition to receiving a renewed driver's license under Section 12814 if, because of the licensee's record for the preceding five years, the licensee is ineligible for a renewal of a driver's license by mail under paragraph (1).*

(b) The director may terminate the renewal by mail program authorized by this section at any time the department determines that the program has an adverse impact on traffic safety.

(c) Renewal by mail may not be granted to any person who is 70 years of age or older.

(d) (1) The department shall charge a fee of twelve dollars (\$12) for each noncommercial license renewal and twenty-seven dollars (\$27) for each commercial license or noncommercial firefighter license renewal granted pursuant to subdivision (a) that expires on the fourth birthday following the date of the application.

(2) The department shall charge a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15) for each noncommercial license renewal and thirty-four dollars (\$34) for each commercial license or noncommercial firefighter license renewal granted pursuant to subdivision (a) that expires on the fifth birthday following the date of the application.

(e) The department shall notify each licensee granted a renewal by mail pursuant to this section of major changes to the Vehicle

1 Code affecting traffic laws occurring during the prior five-year  
2 period.

3 (f) The department may not renew a driver's license by mail if  
4 the license has been previously renewed by mail two consecutive  
5 times for five-year periods.

6 SEC. 2. Section 14900.1 of the Vehicle Code is amended to  
7 read:

8 14900.1. (a) Except as provided in Section 12814.5, 15250.6  
9 , or 15255.1, upon application for the renewal of a driver's license  
10 or for a license to operate a different class of vehicle, there shall  
11 be paid to the department a fee of ~~thirty dollars (\$30)~~ *forty-five*  
12 *dollars (\$45)* for a license that will expire on the fifth birthday of  
13 the applicant following the date of the application. The payment  
14 of the fee entitles the person paying the fee to apply for a driver's  
15 license and to take three examinations within a period of 12  
16 months from the date of the application or during the period that  
17 an instruction permit is valid, as provided in Section 12509.

18 (b) In addition to the application fee specified in subdivision  
19 (a), a person who fails to successfully complete the driving skill  
20 test on the first attempt shall be required to pay an additional fee  
21 of five dollars (\$5) for each additional driving skill test  
22 administered under that application.

23 ~~(c) The fee specified in subdivision (b) shall be collected in~~  
24 ~~conjunction with any application submitted on or after July 1,~~  
25 ~~2003.~~

